

S. THOMAS
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT
OF
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH.

1905.

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To the

Chairman and Members of the . .

S. Thomas Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is my privilege to present to you my Ninth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District, and I have much pleasure in stating that it is in many ways the most satisfactory that I have yet issued.

The District covers 109,604 acres, with a population at the Census of 1901 of 25,994. This includes 1,163 inmates of the Devon County Asylum and 311 of the Starcross Idiot Asylum. These are not included in the figures used for the estimation of the Vital Statistics, and allowing that the population is still decreasing at the rate of the last decennial period, the population is taken at 24,100 at the middle of 1905.

As in previous years I have subdivided the whole area into five subdistricts, four being grouped about the rivers which run through the district, while the town of Topsham is taken by itself. The divisions are very natural ones, as the geological formations are nearly co-terminous with each. The Clyst is mainly composed of the lower marls and lower sandstones of the Permian series, being separated from the Otter by the pebble beds of Woodbury Common; the Otter of the upper sandstone of the Permian; the Exe of lower sandstone at its North and South extremities, with Permian conglomerates in the middle; the Teign of carboniferous shales which in the North run partly into the Exe district, while at their Southern extremity the two are separated by the greensand of the Haldon Hills. The town of Topsham proper is on the lower sandstone, while the rural portion of the parish is on Permian breccia and conglomerates, with some valley gravels.

WEATHER.

The general character of the year's weather may be summed up as dry. The rainfall was 24·83 inches, which is nearly six inches below the average of the last ten years. In each of three

months less than an inch of rain fell, May, July and December. The last occurrence is most unusual. January and February were also much under the average, less than three inches falling in the two months. The winter was open and mild. A short spell of very hot weather in July, and a prolonged cold spell in November.

I am indebted for these figures to the courtesy of the Librarian of the Devon and Exeter Institution.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The total number of deaths registered in the district was 417. Of these 117 occurred in the various Public Institutions in the district, of which seven only were in residents. There were also 19 deaths of residents occurring in the Union Workhouse, and 8 in the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. This gives a net total of 334, and a rate of 13·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is 2·3 lower than the average and the lowest but one recorded.

The number of births is 567 ; 287 being males and 280 females. This gives a rate of 23·1, which is ·5 below the average.

The number of births under one year is 40, giving an infantile mortality of 70 per 1,000 registered births. This is by far the lowest recorded.

The following table gives the figures for the whole and the various subdistricts, with the corrected averages for the last 8 years :—

	Area.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Zymotic D. Rate.	Phthisis D. Rate.
General ...	109,640	24,100	23·1	13·8	70	·37	·74
Average ...		24,614	23·6	15·1	106	·89	·91
(1897-1905)							
Clyst ...	33,870	7,580	25·1	13·8	52	·13	·90
Average ...		7,638	24·4	15·7	96	·76	·88
Exe ...	34,364	8,050	21·9	13·6	80	·12	·99
Average ...		8,160	22·0	13·4	107	·85	·87
Otter ...	13,074	2,280	23·3	16·3	94	2·64	·00
Average ...		2,465	23·1	17·3	109	·85	1·19
Teign ...	30,396	3,420	23·3	11·9	75	·00	·29
Average ...		3,530	25·7	16·1	106	1·11	·49
Topsham ..	3,379	2,770	20·2	14·8	53	·36	·72
Average ..		2,786	22·8	17·1	127	·80	1·43
Rural England and Wales			26·3	14·9	113	1·09	

The birth rates are in all cases much about the average. The Clyst has increased its high rate, while the Teign has fallen.

The death rates call for no particular comment, in each case being an improvement on the average. That for the Otter is, however, excessive.

The rate of Infantile Mortality for the whole and each subdistrict is most satisfactory, in each case there being a great improvement on the respective averages.

Disease Incidents.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The general death rate from Zymotic Disease is exceedingly satisfactory, and only once has been less. The subdistricts, with the exception of the Otter, are also most satisfactory. The Otter had three fatal cases of Diphtheria and three of Whooping Cough. This disease has the greatest number of fatalities, there being one more death at Topsham. The deaths from Diphtheria were the three above mentioned in the Otter district, occurring at East Budleigh. There was one death from Measles at Alphington, and one of Scarlet Fever at Woodbury. There were no deaths from Enteric Fever or Epidemic Diarrhoea.

NOTIFIED DISEASES.

The total number of cases notified was 69, which is by far the lowest of any year since the Infectious Diseases Notification Act was adopted. Of this number 7, 6 being Erysipelas and one Enteric Fever, occurred at the Devon County Asylum; 5 cases of Scarlet Fever also occurred at the Starcross Asylum. The number comparable with previous years is therefore 54, a most satisfactory number. The average for the last ten years is 113.

Of the subdistricts the Teign and Topsham had one case of Erysipelas each, while the attack rate for the other districts are Otter 2·6, Clyst 2·9, and Exe 3·1.

SMALLPOX.

There has been no case in the district during the year.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

There has again been an increase in the number of cases of these disorders, which for all practical purposes may be taken as the same. There were 12 cases, being one less than the number which occurred in 1901, which was the largest. The only place where anything approaching an outbreak was at East Budleigh, where three cases occurred in June, and which were all fatal. Two of these were in one house, the first one attacked being a school child. The second was under school age, as also was the third child attacked. There was nothing in common to the two houses, and no gross sanitary defect. Enquiries were made at the school, but there was no history of any children ailing from sore throat, nor any sanitary defect.

There were two cases at Broadclyst, but at different parts of the parish, with nothing to account for them, and single cases at Huxham, Poltimore, Pinhoe, Stoke Canon and Exminster. At Poltimore there were grave sanitary defects, while at Exminster the case occurred in a house close to the Septic Tank Works, from which there was at the time great complaint of very offensive smells.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 14 cases reported; an increase from last year, owing to 6 cases at the Devon County Asylum. Of the remainder there were two at each of Lympstone and Honiton Clyst, and single cases at Exminster, Kenton, Dunsford and Topsham.

SCARLET FEVER.

A great improvement is shewn in this respect, there being 33 cases, less than half of the number that occurred last year.

The largest number occurred in the Clyst district, 15. This is accounted for by nine cases which occurred in Woodbury Parish, at Ebford and Exton. At Exton there were four cases in one house, but fortunately there was no spread outside this. At Ebford the cases all occurred in different houses, one in September, two in October, one in November, and one in December. After the onset of the earlier cases it was stated that they occurred from certain children who had had the disease going about in an infectious condition. I examined these, but found no justification for the statement.

There were four cases at Honiton Clyst in January, two being

in one house, three cases were in school children, but there was no obvious reason for connecting them with school attendance.

There were single cases at each of Broadclyst and Rockbeare.

There were 11 cases in the Exe district. The greatest number in one place was five, at Stoke Canon. Four of the cases were in two houses, and one of these was a very doubtful case, as also the fifth case.

There were three cases at Huxham, in two houses.

The Otter, Teign and Topsham districts had a complete immunity from this disease through the year.

The remaining seven cases occurred at the Western Counties' Asylum at Starcross. It is difficult to say how the infection was introduced at first; the only possible connection being that one of the nurses had some weeks before been in contact with a case. Four cases occurred in July, one in September, one in October, and one in November.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Only nine notifications of cases of Enteric Fever were received during the year. This is the smallest number that has yet occurred. Of these one was in the Devon County Asylum, and one was Influenza, leaving seven to the credit of the district.

The largest number at any one place was four, at Ide. These did not occur until December, and the outbreak has been carried on into 1906. The origin of the first case is unknown. This was of doubtful character, and was not diagnosed until the child was too ill to be removed. There is no system of sewerage in Ide, there being open gutters at the side of the road, into which the washing and probably some of the slop water from the houses is discharged. During the time that the first case was developing, undoubtedly infectious material was being daily sent down the village. Knowing how school children play in gutters, especially wet ones, it is not surprising that some of them developed the Fever. I have constantly drawn attention to the insanitary state of this village. The question was specially referred to the Parish Council in the summer, but they decided that a sewer was not necessary. However, the responsibility rests with the district Council, and a scheme is now under discussion.

There were single cases at each of Pinhoe, East Budleigh and Colaton Raleigh.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Only one case was notified, at Colaton Raleigh, this was fatal. The other fatality as shown in the tables was a case from Lymptone which occurred at the Workhouse.

Non-Notifiable Zymotic Diseases.

MEASLES.

This disease was not of extensive prevalence during the year. School closure was necessary at Pinhoe and Honiton Clyst. Smaller outbreaks occurred at Starcross and Kenn, where I advised the closure was unnecessary.

The one fatality occurred at Alphington.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This was prevalent in the early part of the year in the Otter district, where it was necessary to close the school on this account. There was a fatality at Topsham, but apparently the outbreak there was not extensive.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA.

There was no fatality from this cause and I have reason to believe that the cases that occurred were not numerous.

Other Specific Diseases.

INFLUENZA.

There has been an increase in the number of cases and fatalities from this disease, the only instance for the year where I have to record an increase from last year. There were nine deaths, mostly in old people, one however being in an infant.

PHTHISIS.

The number of deaths was 18, the same as last year. The Exe has the largest number of deaths, 8; giving the same rate as the Clyst, with seven fatalities. The cases in the Exe were two at Lymptone and Exminster, and one each at Brampford Speke, Kenton, Ide and Alphington. In the Clyst there were two at Woodbury, and one at each of Pinhoe, Broadclyst, Whimble, Sowton, and Farringdon. There were none in the Otter, one at Bridford in the Teign, and two at Topsham.

As things are at present it is impossible to do anything more than is done, namely, disinfection and cleansing of the premises after a fatal case. Until steps are taken to prevent the general dissemination of infectious material in public places it cannot be expected that much reduction in the mortality will be produced. The Board of Guardians have subscribed for a bed at the Devon and Cornwall Sanatorium for Consumptives, and it is to be hoped that this is only a forerunner of the time when all consumptives will be treated in the only way by which a cure can be expected. In addition, every case that is cured is one focus the less for the dissemination of infection.

CANCER.

There has been a reduction in the number of deaths from this cause, 24, as against 28 last year. The Clyst has again the largest number of cases. Of the organs affected, 8 were of the stomach and 4 of the breast.

Other Diseases.

My attention was directed to outbreaks of apparently infectious Sore Throat at Budlake School, Broadclyst and at Upton Pyne. At the former place the outbreak began in the summer holidays, and although the greater number of those attacked were school children, the cases were by no means confined to them. The cases were spread over a wide area, and they apparently had nothing in common. At the time of my visit to the school the attendance was 70 out of 77, so there seemed no need for any steps to be taken.

At Upton Pyne the outbreak occurred in October. I saw the children, who were dull and apathetic. I saw some of the throats which were of a patchy nature, giving one the idea that more severe

cases might easily take on the clinical features of Diphtheria. Some children, who were said to be more severely ill, were seen by Medical Practitioners, but they were of opinion that the throats were not Diphtheritic. It would have been more satisfactory to have been able to examine some of the throats bacteriologically, to discover if possible the nature of any organism that might have been present in the throats. The school privies were most insanitary, and I recommended school closure for a fortnight, while the defects were put right. But the school had met again a good many weeks before the work was done.

Sanitary Administration.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SANATORIUM.

The arrangement with the Exeter City Council has worked well during the year, and 23 cases have been removed to their Sanatorium for proper isolation and treatment. This is less than a third of the number that were removed last year.

DISINFECTION.

The methods in use are the same as previously ; sterilization of clothes and bedding by steam, and fumigation with Formic Aldehyde, and I do not think these can be improved upon. A detailed list of the 1,124 articles that were disinfected is given.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

No particular alteration in the general condition as to housing has been made during the year. The parishes for which bye-laws exist remain as before, Pinhoe, Alphington, Broadclyst and Topsham. Plans for six new buildings in these parishes have been passed. It is frequently said that building in Rural Districts is prevented by bye-laws, but it does not appear to be the case here, as there are more buildings erected in those places that have bye-laws than in the rest of the district. I have before recommended that the modified bye-laws for Rural Districts be adopted, and I have not altered my opinion.

I reported three houses as unfit for human habitation and one case of overcrowding.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The new works in this respect are recounted in the Inspector's summary. They do not include anything of great extent.

The Septic Tank Works at Exminster have been productive of very great nuisance during the year, and complaints have been very loud and persistent. At present, the works are under Mr. Cameron's own management, and the result is said to be considerably improved. I made an Analysis of the effluent in the summer, and found that the purification effected was not what it should be.

The brooks at Ide, Woodbury and Whimble, still receive the sewage of their respective villages. At Woodbury, what is practically an open sewer passes under some cottages.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

The same policy as in previous years has been pursued. The old pit privies are rapidly decreasing in number, being replaced by pail closets or Poore's dry privies. By these means a great source of soil pollution in proximity to houses is done away with which cannot but have a salutary effect on the health of the inhabitants.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

As before, scavenging is done at two places only, Topsham and Lypstone. At each place the collection is bi-weekly and satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sources of public supply in those places that have them have been inspected and are satisfactory.

The new supply at Otterton has been completed and opened in the early summer. It has answered admirably, and in spite of the deficiency of the rainfall the supply has held very well. Otterton now ranks as one of the most sanitary villages in the district.

The question of the supply at Broadclyst has been raised during the year. Some of the wells in the village were analysed by order of the owner, Sir Thomas Acland, and found polluted. I made a general inspection of the village, and found that the houses were all supplied with wells, some in very doubtful situations, while there is in existence a reservoir which is supplied with water pumped up from the river. This is distributed through the village

by a water main, for flushing purposes and the like. It seems a great pity that with the greater part of the service being provided, a supply of pure water is not found and distributed for all purposes. A report of mine to this effect was sent to the Parochial Committee for comment, but I have not heard if any such has been received. At any rate the conditions are the same as when I reported.

The analyses that I have made during the year are appended, together with those relating to Broadclyst, which were referred to above.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are none such in the district.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No prosecution has been necessary under the bye-laws, although in two instances it was necessary to threaten such if an improvement was not made in the method of keeping them. Three new slaughter houses have been erected and licensed.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

These have been inspected as usual, 235 inspections having been made as against 112 last year. I cannot but think that there are many who should be registered, but are not, as the number on the register, though increased, still seems too small for the size of the district.

On the whole, those that are on the register are well kept.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Act of 1901 is properly applied, although the cases to which it applies are not many or important.

The chief points to be reported are as follows :—

1.—Sanitary condition of Workshops and Workplaces, including :—

(a) Cleanliness, air-space, and ventilation.

In two cases there were want of cleanliness.

(b) Drainage of floors where wet processes are carried on.
The drainage of one floor was insufficient.

(c) Provision of suitable sanitary conveniences.
These were generally satisfactory.

2.—Special sanitary regulations of bakehouses.

There are no underground bakehouses. The others are satisfactory.

3 —Home Work.

Apparently there is none such as defined by the Act.

4.—Keeping a Register of Workshops.

This is properly kept.

NUISANCES.

As evidenced by the 2811 inspections performed by the Inspectors of Nuisances, the district is well looked after and such nuisances as are discovered are promptly dealt with.

Mr. Kingwell, who was appointed Assistant Inspector in 1904, has been appointed Inspector to the Barnstaple Rural Council. His successor is Mr. Smale, who holds the Certificate of the Sanitary Institute, and should prove an efficient Inspector.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Both the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act and the Public Health Amendment Act, as far as it relates to Rural Districts, are in force.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

No use is made of this Act.

INSPECTIONS.

In addition to places previously mentioned in this report, I have made inspections at Upton Pyne, Pinhoe, Broadclyst, Stoke Canon, Honiton Clyst, Colaton Raleigh, Starcross, Huxham, Exminster, Kenn, Dunchideock, East Budleigh, Powderham, Topsham, Ide, Brampford Speke, Rockbeare and Aylesbeare.

Complaint was made of three wells insufficiently protected, a foul pigstye, 4 insufficient privies, 2 yards foul, 2 houses a nuisance from defective structure, 3 unfit for human habitation, one overcrowding, and two houses generally dirty. The sanitation of the schools at Upton Pyne and Starcross was also objected to.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed)

MARK FARRANT, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health, and of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health; Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

RESULTS OF WATER ANALYSES.

Locality.	Appearance.	Total Solids.	Chlorine.	Free Ammonia.	Albumd Ammonia.	Nitrogen as Nitrates.	Oxygen Absorbed
Poltimore	...Clear	96	11·2	·02	·018	3·75	·18
Broadclyst	...	116	9·8	·003	·015	4·64	·075
„	...	51	5·70	·003	·005	3·11	·29
„	...	44	4·56	·025	·009	1·82	·41
Honiton Clyst	Turbid	32	3·4	·001	·012	·98	trace
„	...Clear	74	3·8	·0005	·014	1·48	traces
Rewe	...Clear	22	3·1	·002	·003	·77	traces
Stoke Canon	...Clear	32	3·1	·001	·003	·83	·05
Exminster	...Clear	40	5·8	·000	·001	1·24	·1
„	...Clear	112	11·8	·002	·018	2·05	·12
„	...Clear	68	14·9	·006	·006	2·28	·015
„	...Clear	104	15·4	·002	·021	6·35	excess
„	(sewage effluent)	66	8·8	2·740	·752	2 689	2·67

The first at Broadclyst is by Mr. Tickle, the other two by Dr. Voelchler.

LIST OF ARTICLES STERILIZED IN THE
DISINFECTOR.

Blankets	...	...	103	Brought forward	...	652
Pillows	...	...	53	Aprons	...	14
„ Cases	...	...	66	Skirts	...	15
Bolsters	...	...	28	Blouses	...	18
„ Cases	...	...	32	Cloaks	...	15
Sheets	...	...	76	Shawls	...	24
Quilts	...	...	45	Mattresses	...	37
Towels	...	...	43	Coats	...	18
Shirts	...	...	18	Trousers	...	9
Carpets	...	...	52	Palliasses	...	21
Dressing Gowns	...	...	24	„ Cases	...	27
Table Covers	...	...	46	Handkerchiefs	...	68
Curtains	...	...	66	Sundries	...	205
Carried forward	...	...	<u>652</u>			<u>1124</u>

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY THE INSPECTORS
OF NUISANCES.—1905.

No. of Complaints ...	...	...	...	26
„ Inspections	...	...	...	2022
„ Re-inspections	...	...	...	789
„ Notices Served	...	...	...	212
„ Houses, or parts of, Limewashed	...	...	...	69
„ „ „ Disinfected	...	...	...	50
„ „ „ Demolished	...	...	...	2
„ Houses or parts thereof unfit for human habitation				6
„ „ Overcrowded	...	...	...	2
„ Drains (New)	...	...	...	74
„ „ Repaired	...	...	...	43
„ „ Ventilated	...	...	...	35
„ Water Closets (New)	...	...	...	16
„ „ „ supplied with Water	...	...	...	23
„ „ „ Earth Closets and Privies Repaired				26
„ Earth Closets (New)	...	...	...	8
„ Privies converted into Earth Closets			...	8
„ Wells (New)	...	...	...	12
„ Houses to which a Public Supply has been laid on				34
„ Other Nuisances Abated		...	...	53
„ Inspections of Factories		...	...	9
„ „ Workshops		...	...	217
„ Notices under Factory Act, 1901	...	...	...	3
„ Defects remedied under Factory Act, 1901			...	3
„ Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds			...	235
„ „ Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	69
„ New Slaughter Houses, Erected and Licensed			...	3
„ Proceedings taken before Justices	..		...	2
„ Articles Sterilized in Disinfector	...		...	1124

The following public works have been carried out during the past year:—New Sewers at the Strand and Southbrook, Topsham, the latter with outfall works, also the higher portion of the main sewer has been satisfactorily renewed, and with it the defective connections found in doing the work. At East Budleigh another section has been added to the main sewer, thus shortening the link required between the higher and lower systems; the sooner these are connected and provided with a suitable outfall the better. The drainage continues bad. The water supplies have been inspected and in the case of Bridford and Dunsford, necessary repairs and improvements have been effected.

E. H. QUICK, M.R.S.I.,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Jan. 31st, 1906.



S. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	9		
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	227	3	
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises ..			
Total	236	3	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:—				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2		
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of floors	1	1		
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accom- } insufficient				
modations } unsuitable or defective				
} not separate for sexes				
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ..				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107)				
Giving out work to be done in premises } unwholesome				
} (S. 108) ..				
} infected (S. 110)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 109)				
Other offences				
Total	3	3		

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.						Number.		
MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES :—								
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)						..	..	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5)						{	Notified by H.M. Inspector .. Report of (action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors.	
Other							..	..
UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSES (S. 101):—								
Certificates granted						{	in 1904 in 1905	
In use at the end of 1905						..	..	
						Number of		
HOMEWORK. LISTS OF OUTWORKERS * (S. 107):—						Lists.	Outworkers	
Lists received						..	..	
Addresses of Outworkers						{	forwarded to other Authorities received from other Authorities	
HOMEWORK IN UNWHOLESOME OR INFECTED PREMISES :—							Wearing Apparel.	Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)						..	..	
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises								
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)								
WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER (S. 131) AT THE END OF 1905 :—								
Important classes of workshops, such as workshops, bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Bakehouses					..	..	49
	Dressmakers					..	..	17
	Tailors					..	..	10
	Other Trades					..	..	32
Total number of workshops on Register						..	108	

* The Lists should be received twice in a year. The year's figures required in the Table are those obtained by adding together the two half yearly totals.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
S. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate *	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1897	26,890	651	24.2	71	105	430	15.9	98	97	22	355	13.2
1898	26,940	558	20.7	66	118	425	15.7	61	61	27	391	14.5
1899	26,900	586	21.7	70	119	487	18.1	94	94	18	411	15.2
1900	26,910	560	22.2	53	98	485	18.0	104	105	15	395	14.2
1901	24,520	560	23.7	64	110	500	20.3	114	103	25	421	17.2
1902	24,410	557	22.8	48	86	406	16.6	130	124	30	312	12.7
1903	24,300	562	23.1	48	85	441	18.1	125	114	28	355	14.6
1904	24,200	537	22.1	60	111	430	17.6	112	106	26	350	14.4
Corrected Averages for years 1895—1904.	24,614	571	23.6	60	106	450	17.5	105	100	24	374	15.1
1905	24,100	567	23.1	40	70	417	17.3	117	110	27	334	13.8

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

The figures for the years 1897-1900 are given as they have appeared in previous reports, but the average are corrected in accordance with the over estimation of the population.

Total population at all ages, 24,520. Number of inhabited houses, 5,650. Average number of persons per house, 4.3. At Census of 1901.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 109,640.

Institutions within the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from outside the District:—Devon County Asylum, Starcross Idiot Asylum, City of Exeter Infectious Diseases Hospital, Heavitree Infectious Diseases Hospital, Court Hall Asylum. *Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from the District*:—S. Thomas Union Workhouse, Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

TABLE II.
VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
S. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	1. CLYST.				2. EXE.				3. OTTER.				4. TEIGN.				5. TOPSHAM.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1897	7750	204	109	24	9855	222	95	21	2835	66	39	7	3600	98	58	9	2850	63	46	10
1898	7800	198	110	17	9855	160	129	21	2835	54	55	10	3600	84	59	15	2850	62	38	3
1899	7800	182	110	25	9840	182	128	21	2820	43	51	4	3600	108	56	9	2840	71	66	11
1900	7800	177	110	14	9850	182	115	21	2820	51	53	5	3600	86	60	9	2840	64	51	5
1901	7634	174	135	33	8133	172	117	22	2447	68	45	5	3526	98	74	8	2780	63	51	9
1902	7620	180	112	17	8110	188	98	11	2400	48	27	4	3500	86	41	9	2780	55	34	8
1903	7606	184	111	17	8078	169	104	16	2353	59	43	4	3474	91	41	4	2780	59	56	7
1904	7590	166	95	11	8070	169	129	19	2310	67	37	7	3450	62	49	10	2780	73	40	13
Corrected Averages of Years 1897 to 1904.	7638	183	111	20	8160	180	114	18	2465	57	44	6	3530	89	54	9	2786	64	48	8
1905	7580	191	106	10	8050	177	109	17	2280	53	37	5	3420	80	41	5	2770	56	41	3

TABLE III.

S. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.								No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.				
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.												
Small-pox	..																	
Cholera	..																	
Diphtheria	..		4	2	1	3	4	3	3						1			
Membranous croup	..	1		1			2	2		1	1	6			1			
Erysipelas	14					8	15	4					7		12			
Scarlet fever	33		4	22	6	1		11										
Typhus fever	..																	
Enteric fever	9			7		2	1	5	2			1						3
Relapsing fever	..																	
Continued fever	..								1									
Puerperal fever	..					1												
Plague	..																	
Totals	69	1	8	32	7	15	22	25	6	1	1	7	7	13	10			

State the name of the isolation hospital, if any, used by the sick of the district. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district.—City of Exeter Sanatorium, at Pinhoe.

TABLE IV.

ST. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1905.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Localities (At all Ages).					Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Clyst.	Exe.	Otter.	Teign.	Tops'm.	
Small-pox ..													
Measles ..	1		1						1				
Scarlet fever ..	1			1				1					2
Whooping- cough ..	4	3	1							3		1	
Diphtheria and membranous croup ..	3		2	1						3			2
Croup ..													
Fever { Typhus													2
{ Enteric													
{ Other													
{ contin'd													
Epidemic influenza ..	9	1	1			4	3	5	4				
Diarrhœa ..													1
Enteritis ..	1						1		1				
Puerperal fever	2				1	1			1	1			
Erysipelas ..													1
Other septic diseases ..	6		1	1		3	1		3		2	1	
Phthisis ..	18			1	4	13		7	8		1	2	19
Other tubercu- lar diseases ..	6			1	1	4		3	1		2		3
Cancer, malig- nant disease ..	24			1		10	13	9	5	4	4	2	2
Bronchitis ..	49	9	1			8	31	12	13	7	9	8	3
Pneumonia ..	13	2		1		4	6	7	3	2	1		4
Pleurisy ..	2	1				1			1		1		
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ..	2		1			1		2					
{ Alcoholism													
{ Cirrhosis of liver	2					2				2			
Premature birth	4	4						1		1		2	
Diseases and accidents of parturition ..													
Heart diseases	56	1			1	26	28	22	15	4	7	8	10
Accidents ..	9	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	1		3	1
Suicides ..	5					5		1	3		1		
Old age ..	38						38	13	14	4	2	5	14
Diseases of nervous system	27		2		1	9	15	4	14	4	1	4	48
Kidney disease	13			2		9	2	5	4		1	3	2
All other causes	39	17	1		1	5	15	11	16	1	9	2	3
All causes ..	334	40	12	10	10	108	154	106	109	37	41	41	117

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.
January, 1906.
MARK FARRANT, Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE V.
ST. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905. Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total Under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified .. Uncertified ..																	
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox ..																	
	Chicken-pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria : Croup ..																	
	Whooping Cough..								1		1		1					3
Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms																	
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Gastritis Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth ..	2	1			3	1											4
	Congenital Defects	3	2			5		1										6
	Injury at Birth ..																	
	Want of Breast-milk Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	1	1		3		1										4
Tuber- culous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica ..																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..																	
	Rickets ..																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions ..			1		1	1	2		1	1		1		1			8
	Bronchitis ..						1	2	1	1	1		1	2	1	1		11
	Laryngitis ..																	
	Pneumonia ..											1						1
	Suffocation, over- laying ..	1				1							1					2
	Other Causes ..								1									1
		7	4	2		13	3	6	3	2	3	1	4	2	2	1		40

Births in the Year :—Legitimate, 567 ; Illegitimate, 21. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 334. Population, estimated to middle of 1905, 24,100.